

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Jean STEINMETZ, et al.

Appln. No.: 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) Continuation of  
International Application No. PCT/FR02/00988, filed March 21, 2002

Confirmation No.: NOT YET KNOWN

Filed: September 26, 2003

For: METHOD FOR TREATING METAL SURFACES BY CARBOXYLATION

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a

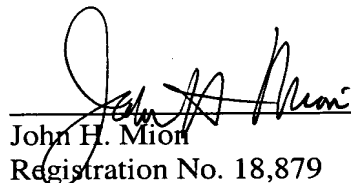
## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a counterpart International Search Report citing such documents, together with an English-language version of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the International Patent Office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE  
**23373**  
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 26, 2003

Substitute for form 1449 A & B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	NOT YET KNOWN
				Confirmation Number	NOT YET KNOWN
				Filing Date	September 26, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Jean STEINMETZ et al
				Art Unit	NOT YET KNOWN
				Examiner Name	NOT YET KNOWN
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q-77594

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 2,229,236		1/21/1941	Eduard NACHTIGALL et al
		US 6,608,711		5/30/2000	Ly YUCHENG et al
		US 3,969,152		7/13/1976	Donald J. MELOTIK
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		DE	196 15 664		10/23/1997	SURTEC PRODUKTE UND SYSTEME FU	
		FR	2 778 186		11/5/1999	ELF ANTAR FRANCE	
		DE	27 27 111		12/21/1978	RHEINISCHES ZINKWALZWERK GMBH	

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS, Vol. 125, No. 14, September 30, 1996; RAPIN C, et al: "Inhibition of Copper Aqueous Corrosion by Sodium Linear Saturated Carboxylates. Part II. Characterization of the Surface Films Formed by the Reaction Between Copper and the Heptanoate Anion", REV METALL./CAH. INF. TECH (1996), pages 719-727	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant indicate here if English language Translation is attached.